


Euripides'

THE TROJAN WOMEN



Euripides wrote his TROJAN WOMEN in 415 B.C. after sixteen years of war between his native Athens and Sparta. Although Athenians were highly divided over the war, it took great courage to write such a damning anti-war play while his country was fighting for its life. But Euripides was very angry. Only a few months earlier the Athenian navy had brutally crushed the strategically located island of Melos. Given the ultimatum to join Athens or be attacked, the inhabitants of Melos had fought to protect their right to remain neutral. Incensed, the Athenians in their victory had mercilessly killed every single male, child and old man alike, and had carried off all its women into slavery. Greek tragedy took as its subject matter the ancient myths. Dealing with recent events was taboo. Undaunted, Euripides, the angry young man of his day, brilliantly wove this incident into the myth of the fall of Troy as told by Homer in the ILIAD.

Originally the play was written as the third play in a trilogy (Agamemnon and Palamedes, both lost, being the first two). Dramatic scholars and classicists alike have long noted the episodic and anti-climatic nature of the play which though filled with many powerful moments, lacks an over-all unity. Anyone 2500 years from now attempting to stage a production of the third act of a 20th century play would face similar problems of dramatic structure. They would lack, as we now lack, the necessary information and audience involvement from the missing material. In my version of Euripides' play, therefore, I have attempted not only to create a contemporary poetic language suitable for actors to speak, but I have restructured events, scenes, and in some cases speeches, in order to create a play of rising suspense and dramatic unity.

The play speaks of issues other than war, especially repression wherever it is found. Not long after the presentation of THE TROJAN WOMEN in 415 B.C., due to a deteriorating political situation, Euripides left Athens in self-exile. I hope not to have to do the same here.

Philip Spensley.



THE TROJAN WOMEN

A new English Version by Philip Spensley

Directed by Philip Spensley

Set and Lighting: Eric Mongerson

Costumes: John Dinning

CAST

Poseidon	Hamish McEwan
Athena	Meg Labelle
Hecuba	Penny Farfan
Cassandra	Sandy Gruenwald
Andromache	Louyse Leonard
Talthybius	Robert Burns
Helen	Patty Talbot
Meneleus	Harry Standjofski
Chorus	Kathryn Cleveland Mona el Baroudi Debbie Friedman Jan Kirshner Julie Lemieux Marianne Maltby Carla Napier Brenda Rothwell
Soldiers	George Karpouzas Philip Schlimper Erik Thorpe

The play takes place on a plain before Troy.

PRODUCTION

Stage Manager	Nancy Brown
Ass't. Stage Manager	Nancy Clark
Technical Director	Don Childs
Ass't. Technical Director	Julie Germain
Ass't. Scenic Designer	Lorraine Pouliot
Master Electrician	Emilie Painchaud
Ass't. Lighting Designer	Annabelle Tully
Light Crew Head	Lise Bernier
Prop Crew Head	Bitu Hamidi
Costumière	Gayle Larson
Costume Crew Head	Heather Adderley
Costume Crew	Christine Dandurand Christina Milburn Catherine Newman Pierre Saindon Beata Waruszynski
Paint Crew Head	Carmie Pietracupa
Sound Crew Head	Vincent Boudreau
Front of House Manager	Charles Morin
Box-Office Manager	Marlene Colacci
Ass't. Box-Office Manager	Judy Harquail
Publicity Heads	Sonia Benezra Carmie Pietracupa

1st SEMESTER CREWS

Electrics Crew Head	Lise Bernier
Electrics	Toenke Berkelbach Martine Brouillard Matt Brown Shona French Viviane Mitjans Danielle Perron Russell Reeves Michael Shayne
Scenery Shop	Lynda Bathory Jean Bolduc Leon Khachkhachian Luc Lafortune Lucie Lortie Lynn Priest Alicia Sedwitz
Properties Shop	Philip Corcos Victoria Edremoda Mary McKeown Juanita McNairn Mark Weiss
Paint Crew	Deborah Bergeron Grazia Carrubba Linda Kelemen Rejean Labrie Arlene Nadeau Josée Pellerin
Sound Crew	John Gilmore
House and Publicity Crew	Simon Barry Lise Baudry Monique Bourdages Gloria Brathwaite Mark Freedman Nadia Guglieri Sussane N. Hirbod Ludmilla Luft Anne Segal

Our next production:

ALL MY SONS
by Arthur Miller
Directed by Terry Donald

D.B. Clarke Theatre

Nov.19-22 and 26-28

Forthcoming productions:

THE THREEPENNY OPERA
by Bertold Brecht and Kurt Weill
Directed by Joseph T. Cazalet
Music Conductor:Andrew Homzy

D.B. Clarke Theatre

Jan.28-31 and Feb.4-6

SMALL CRAFT WARNINGS
by Tennessee Williams
Directed by Bruce Duckat

Feb.18-21 and 25-27

THE HOT L BALTIMORE
by Lanford Wilson
Directed by Louis DiBianco

D.B. Clarke Theatre

Mar.18-21 and 25-27

To be announced: March-April

Students from the Directing class:
a playbill of one-act plays.